



LILIHA/ PUUNUI/ ALEWA/ KAMEHAMEHA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 14

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NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 14 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006 MAEMAE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sesnita Moepono called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS' PRESENT: Sesnita Moepono, Donald Nitta, Dale White, Max Fowler, Bob Stubbs, Loy Kuo, and Arvid Youngquist.

MEMBERS' ABSENT: Leonard Kam, Jay Aguilar, Edward Thompson, and Claude Uehara.

GUESTS: Willa Donnelly, Debbie Kim Morikawa (Mayor's Representative), Lydia Chock (Maluhia), Capt. Larry Sukanuma (Honolulu Fire Department), Sgt. Jeff Simmons and Sgt. Bryan Iwano (Honolulu Police Department), Pat Lee (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Representative Corrine Ching, Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply), Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Tracy Okubo (Governor's Representative), K. Russell Ho, Rachel Glanstein, and Kelley Santiago (Neighborhood Commission Office staff), Lawren Oakland, Anna Lauren Lerner, and Katie Churchey (Representative Ching's Office staff).

FILLING OF TWO VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 2: There were no volunteers.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 13, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The following corrections were made:

1. Page 1, Approval of Minutes should read: "February 13" and not "January 9".
2. Page 2, Honolulu Police Department, No. 1, first sentence, "pared" should read "parked".
3. Page 9, first paragraph, insert amendment to read: "

Nitta moved, seconded by White to approve the March 13, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0-0.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS & GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' FORUM: None.

EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH ON-DUTY PERSONNEL:

Honolulu Fire Department – Capt. Larry Sukanuma reported the following for the month of March 2006: (1) Statistics include 11 structure, 1 brush, 2 rubbish, and 4 vehicle fires, 159 medical emergencies and 23 miscellaneous alarms. (2) Fire Safety Tip: Prepare a fire escape plan. Map out your escape routes with at least two out of each room. Designate a location outside of the house where everyone can meet. Know where the closest phone is located to call 911.

Honolulu Police Department – Sgt. Jeff Simmons reported the following for the month of April 2006: (1) Statistics include 1 sex offense, 4 robbery, 17 burglary, 36 theft, 20 unauthorized entry of a motor vehicle (UEMV), 5 motor vehicle theft, 22 assault, 90 motor vehicle collision (MVC), 7 property damage, 1 drug, 4 family offense, 80 argument, and 4 DUI cases.

Questions, comments and answers: (1) Question was asked as to what is classified as a family offense case. Sgt Simmons reported that such cases are those abuse of a family member. (2) Concern was raised regarding a rubbish dumpster that is stationed in a "No parking zone" at 1726 Kapalama Ave. HPD will follow-up on the concern. (3) A resident sought clarification to the jurisdiction of the retaining wall at Kunawai Springs. The resident explained that officers responded to a complaint about bird feeding on the wall at the Springs. Officers explained that they were unable to take action as the alleged violation took place on the wall that is out of their jurisdiction. Sgt. Simmons added that HPD needs a written statement noting that the wall is a part of the park. (4) Chair Moepono raised concern of parking problems near Natsunoya Restaurant on Kamalii and Makanani



Streets. She reported that vehicles are parked on the unimproved sidewalk area. It was stated that HPD previously agreed to towing illegally parked vehicles, however the problem continues and towing has not taken place. Sgt. Simmons stated that HPD will first assess the situation and if hazardous, will tow the vehicle. HPD was asked to increase monitoring of the area in an effort to combat the parking problem and ensure safety of pedestrians. In response, Mayor's Representative Debbie Kim Morikawa will follow-up on the issue. Kim Morikawa also agreed to follow-up on parking complaints on Kealia and Kapalama Streets. Concern was raised that emergency medical vehicles are unable to effectively pass through the street due to excessive parking on both sides of the street.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS: (1) Loy Kuo raised concern of the broken water coolers on Lanakila Street. He reported contacting the Department of Parks and Recreation about the problem. In addition, he asked Councilmember Tam include funds in the City's budget for repairing of the coolers. (2) Max Fowler suggested additional funding to install new flooring at Lanakila Gym. Cost is estimated at \$210k.

OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

Board of Water Supply – Iris Oda reported the following: (1) The Board of Water Supply will hold a Public Hearing regarding is water rate increase on Monday, May 15, 2006 in its Board Room at 630 South Beretania Street at 2 p.m.

Councilmember Rod Tam – Councilmember Tam distributed his report and highlighted the following: (1) Kuakini Street Extension – The State Board of Land and Natural Resources at their April Board Meeting rescinded their offer to convey the parcel for the Kuakini Street Extension Project to the City. This is due to the City informing them that the City could not use the entire parcel for the project and did not have the financial resources to maintain or upgrade any unused portion of the parcel. The City Department of Transportation Services subsequently sent a letter to DLNR requesting an easement to the City, through their property, so the project could still be constructed. There has been no reply to date from the DLNR on the City's request for an easement. In speaking to the Mayor, the Councilmember was informed that the City is still committed to the project provided that State will give them an easement through the property. Councilmember Tam included an additional \$1 million in this year's Capital Improvement Budget to account for increased costs over last years projections of \$1.5 million. (2) Kunawai Springs – A letter was written to the Department of Parks and Recreation regarding ownership of the wall on the mauka side of Kunawai Street by the restrooms and also a breakdown of the \$600,000 for the recreation facility upgrades but have not received any answer to date. An estimated timeframe was not provided by DPR for the security gates in which the Councilmember's office add to the CIP budget.

Mayor's Representative – Debbie Kim Morikawa briefed the board on responses to the concerns raised last month. She added that the Family Day Fair was held at the refurbished Ala Moana Beach Park in which a lot of positive feedback was expressed.

Questions, comments and concerns: (1) It was reported that there is a missing speed limit sign on Lanakila Ave. (2) Concern was raised of a large pothole on the Ewa side of Houghtailing and Alani Streets. (3) It was noted that the retaining wall on Kamaka Lane is failing.

Hawaii High Capacity Corridor Project – Pat Lee distributed informational brochures relating to the project and reported that a full detailed presentation will be provided if the board so desires.

Governor's Representative – Tracy Okubo distributed the Governor's Report and highlighted the following: (1) Less than a week after meeting with the homeless, churches and social service providers to find an immediate solution to help homeless individuals and families staying at Central Union and Kawaiahao Churches, the Lingle-Aiona Administration opened the doors of a temporary emergency housing facility in Kakaako named the "Next Step Project". (2) Governor Lingle has released \$200,000 to replace the air conditioning chiller plant and related site, infrastructure and building improvements at Liliha Public Library. (3) The 3rd Annual International Women's Leadership Conference, "Women with no Limits" will be held on August 29, 2006 at Sheraton Waikiki Hotel and Resort, Hawaii Ballroom from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland – Senator Chun-Oakland distributed her report and a copy of the Bills Passed by the Hawaii State Legislature Regular Session of 2006. She highlighted the following: (1) Lanakila Elementary

School: The classroom renovation project is scheduled to begin on May 1, 2006. The asbestos surveys have been completed and the tests were negative. Completion of the project is expected in October 2006. Also, the school's fire alarm replacement project went through the consultant selection process April 13, 2006. Following fee negotiations and contract execution (approximately two months), the design for this project will begin and take six months. The bidding and construction phase will take approximately nine to twelve months. (2) Alleged Rat and mosquito Infestation 1861 Kualono Street – On February 2, 2006, an inspector with the Vector Control Branch conducted an inspection of the premises and observed standing water in which mosquitoes were breeding, failure to treat the standing water to control the mosquitoes, and failure to control rodents on the premises. A notice to abate the vector nuisances was posted on the property. A follow-up inspection was conducted and revealed that the violations had not been abated. The owner of the property will be issued a field citation if appropriate. (3) Kawananakoa Middle School Music Building expansion – Governor Lingle has released \$334,000 to expand the music building at the school. The expansion will provide approximately 850 additional square feet for instrument storage space. Existing portions of the music building will be renovated to provide practice rooms. (4) Alewa Water System Improvements – The Board of Water Supply has scheduled a water main, fire hydrants, and appurtenances along the areas shown on the enclosed map. The project will reduce main breaks and improve fire protection and water service to the residents in the area. (5) Correspondence was sent to Mayor Hannemann requesting assistance in resurfacing Nuuanu Avenue, Pauoa Road, Liliha Street, Alewa Drive, Wyllie Street and Judd Street. (5) Kuakini Extension – A meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10 at the Senator's Office to further discuss the issues relating to the Kuakini Extension.

Questions, comments, and answer: (1) Chair Moepono thanked Senator Chun-Oakland for her efforts in assisting with the removal of abandoned vehicles.

Representative Corinne Ching – Representative Ching distributed her report and highlighted the following: (1) New Staff – The representative introduced her new office manager, Katie Churchey. (2) Three Strikes – After years of pushing for tougher laws against violent career criminals, and last minute attempts to kill the bill, House Republicans were able to pass out a “three strikes” law that will allow prosecutors to keep violent career criminals off the streets. The following crimes are defined as “violent” for purposes of this law: murder; manslaughter; 1st degree assault; kidnapping; rape; continuous sexual assault of a minor under 14; 1st and 2nd degree robbery; 1st and 2nd degree burglary. One third of Majority members voted against the bill. (3) Electronic Surveillance: House Republicans have fought for a bill that conforms the electronic surveillance laws to those of the federal government. This allows federal and state law enforcement officials to collaborate more closely on matters, and modernizes a state law that was unsafe for local law enforcement officials. Passage of this bill will help state the federal law enforcement crack down on the illegal manufacture and distribution of “ice”. (4) Constitutional Amendment – Sexual Assault – Originally passed in 2004 and ratified by the electorate in the 2004 General Election, the legislature needed to pass this amendment that will help convict pedophiles once again because of a lawsuit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union. In a bi-partisan move, the legislature one again unanimously passed this constitutional amendment. (5) Kuakini Extension Update – The proposed Kuakini Extension lot has been cleaned and the abandoned carts removed since April. The 12 abandoned and derelict vehicles were removed from the premises by the DLNR, relieving the area of longstanding eyesore. The DLNR had previously cut grass and weeds on April 4. Representative Ching and a number of other state and city officials have been meeting to discuss how to maintain the Kuakini Extension in the future.

Representative Dennis Arakaki – A representative was not present.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Convalescent Center – A representative was not present.

Kuakini Medical Center – A representative was not present.

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center – A representative was not present.

Maluhia/Leahi Hospital – Lillian Chock was present and available for questions.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Kuakini Extension – Issue addressed earlier in the meeting.

Update on Keola Drive Clean-up – Follow-up will be provided as information is made available.

Update on Kamalii Street problems with Tea House parking – The Mayor's Representative will follow-up on the issue.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Chair's Report:

Wyllie & Waolani Street Corner: Notice of installation of "No Parking to Corner" Sign – The Mayor's representative will follow-up on the issue.

Construction of curb ramps at the Makuahine & Hala and School & Makuahine Intersections – The Mayor's representative will follow-up on the issue.

Publish Annual Newsletter and request to use money in the budget – The board discussed the possible use of its publicity funds to fund costs of a annual newsletter. Chair Moepono suggested featuring community groups who are working in the area.

Youngquist moved seconded by White to approve the use of Publicity Funds for a newsletter/public relations. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Due to the Kamehameha Day holiday, the board will not meet on Monday, June 12, 2006. The meeting date will be later announced in the board's regular mail-out for the month of June.
2. Both Lanakila and Good Shepherd Churches will partner to assist in improving the reading skills of interested community members. A silent auction will be held on Friday, May 12 at Good Shepherd Church from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objections, Chair Moepono adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Kelley Santiago
Neighborhood Assistant